

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended)** A fixed type constant velocity joint comprising:
 - an outer joint member having an inner spherical surface and having axially extending ball grooves at circumferentially equispaced positions on the inner spherical surface;
 - an inner joint member having an outer spherical surface and having axially extending ball grooves at circumferentially equispaced positions on the outer spherical surface;
 - balls disposed in wedge-shaped ball tracks defined by the ball grooves of the outer and inner joint members; and
 - a cage interposed between the inner spherical surface of the outer joint member and the outer spherical surface of the inner joint member to hold the balls,
a pressing section which axially applies an elastic pressing force disposed on an inner joint member side, and the cage including a receiving section which receives a pressing force from said pressing section,
wherein a torsional angle in a torque-torsional angle diagram is approximately 0 at the time of input torque 0 Nm, and
wherein the constant velocity joint is configured to be connected to a shaft of a vehicle and configured such that a rotational direction phase having a bending direction of the shaft so as to be aligned with one ball groove of the ball grooves coincides with a steering wheel rotational phase of the vehicle such that the vehicle is in a straight travel state.

- 2. (Currently Amended)** A fixed type constant velocity joint comprising:
 - an outer joint member having an inner spherical surface and having axially extending ball grooves at circumferentially equispaced positions on the inner spherical surface;
 - an inner joint member having an outer spherical surface and having axially extending ball grooves at circumferentially equispaced positions on the outer spherical surface;
 - balls disposed in wedge-shaped ball tracks defined by the ball grooves of the outer and inner joint members; and
 - a cage interposed between the inner spherical surface of the outer joint member and the outer spherical surface of the inner joint member to hold the balls~~[,]~~; and

a pressing section which axially applies an elastic pressing force disposed on an inner joint member side, and the cage including a receiving section which receives a pressing force from said pressing section,

wherein a torsional rigidity in the vicinity of input torque 0 Nm in a torque-torsional angle diagram is in a range of 1.5 Nm/deg to 6 Nm/deg, and

wherein the constant velocity joint is configured to be connected to a shaft of a vehicle and configured such that a rotational direction phase having a bending direction of the shaft so as to be aligned with one ball groove of the ball grooves coincides with a steering wheel rotational phase of the vehicle such that the vehicle is in a straight travel state.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 31, wherein the ball tracks include an expanded side, and the elastic pressing force acts such that the inner joint member is pushed out to the expanded side of the ball tracks through the receiving section installed in the cage.

5. (Previously Presented) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said joint is used for steering devices.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 62, wherein the ball tracks include an expanded side, and the elastic pressing force acts such that the inner joint member is pushed out to the expanded side of the ball tracks through the receiving section installed in the cage.

8. (Previously Presented) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said joint is used for steering devices.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said joint is used for steering devices.

12. (Previously Presented) A fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said joint is used for steering devices.